Airtel

6/1/77

To: SAC, Dallas (89-43)

From: Director, FBI (62-109060)

1 - Mr. Peelman
1 - Mr. Lawn
1 - Mr. Clark
1 - Mr. Mintz (Attn: Office of Congressional Affairs)
1 - Mr. Kelleher (Attn: Mr. Cunningham)

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT
JOHN F. KENNEDY
NOVEMBER 22, 1963

Re Dallas airtel and LHM dated 1/10/77, Dallas teletype dated 3/22/77, and FBIHQ airtel dated 3/23/77.

Referenced communications pertain to the metal fragment furnished to Dallas by Richard Harold Lester.

For the information of Dallas, FBIHQ recently advised the Department of Justice that since the situation pertaining to the test bullets has continued unresolved since December, 1976, the FBI recommended returning the metal fragment to the contributor, Mr. Lester. The Department concurred and so advised the House Select Committee on Assassinations (HSCA).

HSCA now intends to issue a subpoena to Mr. Lester in order to obtain the fragment for ballistic comparison with the Oswald rifle test bullets.

The Department has orally requested that FBIHQ retain the fragment until its contributor advises he is in receipt of a subpoena. At that time FBIHQ will return the fragment to Mr. Lester under Department authorization on the condition Mr. Lester specifically requests the FBI return the fragment to him, and does not resist the subpoena.

DJC/saa (8)

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO.

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Airtel to SAC, Dallas
Re: Assassination of President John F. Kennedy

Assuming the subpoena is served on Mr. Lester, Dallas will sutel his decision and any request he may make keeping in mind that on 1/1/77, Mr. Lester advised he wanted only the FBI to conduct examinations of the fragment.

Dallas will continue to record details of any contacts with Lester in form suitable for dissemination.

NOTE: This is to advise Dallas of USDJ decision in matter according to Special Counsel to the Attorney General, Robert Keuch's, discussion with Unit Chief [redacted], Congressional Inquiry Unit, on 5/25/77, as set forth in J. S. Peelman to Mr. Fehl memo of 5/26/77, and to instruct that FBIHQ be immediately advised of Lester's decision should he be served with a subpoena. b7C

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